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COUNTY OF CLACKMANNAN.



Thirty-Fourth  
**Annual Report**

Upon the  
Health and Sanitary Condition of the  
County and Burghs.

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1924.

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C. C. FINLATOR, M.D., D.P.H.,  
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH,



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C. C. FINLATOR, M.D., D.P.H.,  
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH,

ALLOA :  
Buchan Brothers, 29 Candleriggs.  
1925.

*To the Scottish Board of Health, the County Council of  
Clackmannan, and the Town Councils of Alloa,  
Alva, Tillicoultry and Dollar.*

My Lords and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit to you the Annual Report for the year 1924 on the Health and Sanitary Condition of the County of Clackmannan and the Burghs therein.

The Report is based upon the instructions issued by the Board of Health in a Circular dated 30th December, 1924. These instructions follow the lines of those issued last year, but there are some additional details asked for.


I have the honour to be,

My Lords and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

C. C. FINLATOR.

*County Buildings,  
Alloa.*



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## Clackmannanshire, 1924.

AS in recent years, this Report is planned in such a way that matters affecting the County as a whole, or which are common to several of the Local Authorities, are first dealt with, while details concerning individual Local Authorities follow.

### Population—Area—Density of Population.

The population shown at the middle of 1924 is the estimate of the Registrar-General.

	Population.		Area in Acres.	Persons per Acre
	1921 Census	Estimated at Middle of 1924		
Clackmannan County District .	11,331	10,447	33,143	0·32
Alloa Burgh . . . .	12,421	12,881	1 074	11·06
Alva Burgh . . . .	4,107	3 894	270	14·42
Tillicoultry Burgh . . . .	3,100	2,986	248	12·04
Dollar Burgh . . . .	1,584	1,550	219	7·08
Total . . . .	32,543	31,758	34,954	0·91

### Vital Statistics.

The birth-rate and the various mortality rates for 1924 are shown in Table I. of the Appendix, together with the mean of the rates of the previous five years, which gives a better idea of the health conditions prevailing in small communities than the rates for a single year. Table I. shows that, compared with all Scotland, the County of Clackmannan during 1924 had 2 births less and 2 deaths more per 10,000 population. The infantile death rate was only 86 compared with 98 for Scotland, and the death rate from epidemic disease was 0.54 compared with 1.01. The death rate from pulmonary tuberculosis was 0.79 for the County compared with 0.80 for Scotland, while the rate for non-pulmonary tuberculosis was 0.38 compared with 0.36.

### Conditions Affecting the Health of the County, Enquiries Made, Advice Given, etc.

There is nothing new to report as regards conditions which affect the health of the County. In common with others, this district received a very meagre amount of sunlight during the year, and so great is the faith placed in sunlight as an aid to health by many of the medical profession at present, that its comparative

scarcity during 1924 is held responsible by them for a greater prevalence than usual of many diseases, especially infectious diseases. There may be something in this theory, but we must not forget the other factors determining loss of health, such as poverty, consequent upon unemployment, and resulting in insufficient and unsuitable feeding, overcrowding through shortage of housing accommodation, and the spread of infection owing to the ignorance or indifference of many people. While we cannot regulate the sunlight we can still do a great deal, both locally and as a nation, to bring about improvement as regards these other factors.

Complaints were received regarding the presence of mosquitoes in the neighbourhood of Alloa. The specimens brought to me were of the common British variety, *Culex pipiens*, which does not carry malaria. They can be very annoying, however, and should be exterminated by proper drainage of the ditches and regular treatment of stagnant water with crude paraffin where drainage is unsuccessful. Instructions were given as to how this might be done where mosquito-breeding was taking place.

The usual enquiries and inspections were made, while advice was given and certificates were granted in all the various branches of Public Health work.

### **Pollution of Rivers.**

The pollutions remain as previously reported upon, for all practical purposes. During the year the Town Council of Alva consulted an Engineer regarding the installation of increased sewage purification plant on modern lines. The Engineer had not submitted his final report by the end of the year, but it is now being considered.

### **Infectious Diseases Hospital.**

The County Combination Infectious Diseases Hospital has been fully described in previous reports. The Hospital is in a very satisfactory condition.

Dr Fergusson, the Medical Superintendent, has supplied me with the following particulars regarding admissions to Hospital during 1924:—Typhoid or Enteric Fever, 3; Scarlet Fever, 178; Diphtheria, 30; Erysipelas, 6; Puerperal Fever, 1; Acute Primary Pneumonia, 4; Measles, 1; Measles-Pneumonia, 7; Observation Cases, 2; Suspected case of Encephalitis Lethargica, 1.

The following cases died in Hospital :—Diphtheria, 2; Scarlet Fever, 1; Acute Primary Pneumonia, 2; Measles-Pneumonia, 3.

The Smallpox Hospital was fully reported upon in the reports of 1920 and 1921. It is regularly inspected and kept ready for the reception of patients on short notice.

The Horse Ambulance Van is in good condition and in regular use.

### **Disinfection and Prevention of Infectious Diseases.**

The means available for disinfection were fully detailed in the report for 1920 and are still in operation.

The usual measures of notification, isolation, disinfection and quarantine of contacts were carried out. During epidemics schools were visited and classes of children were examined where any suspicion of infection being spread in school arose. Headmasters were advised as to the best methods of dealing with outbreaks and the class rooms were disinfected as required. Doubtful cases were removed to the Fever Hospital for observation, when accommodation was available, if they could not be properly isolated at home.

### **Public Health (Pneumonia, Malaria, Dysentery, etc.) Regulations (Scotland), 1919.**

#### **Public Health (Infectious Disease Carriers) Regulations (Scotland), 1921.**

These Regulations have so far worked smoothly. Arrangements for the isolation of "carriers" are made at the County Fever Hospital. Since the regulations came in force, a few "carriers" of diphtheria have been dealt with, but none were notified during 1924. 21 cases of Pneumonia and 17 of Influenzal Pneumonia were notified, 11 of which were treated in Hospital.

### **Treatment of Venereal Diseases.**

The arrangements made by the County Joint V.D. Committee with the Stirlingshire Joint V.D. Committee whereby the Clinic of the latter Committee, adjoining Stirling Royal Infirmary, is made available for cases of Venereal Disease from this County still continue as formerly.

During the year ending 15th May, 1925, 24 cases attended the Clinic for the first time from Clackmannan. The total attendances of Clackmannanshire patients were 520, while 38 microscopic examinations, 29 blood tests and 153 injections of Salvarsan substitutes were required for these patients.

A number of unemployed persons had their train fares paid to Stirling to enable them to carry out the treatment. This was arranged for at the office of the M.O.H., County Buildings, Alloa, where information and advice as to treatment can be obtained with due respect to privacy.

### Control of Tuberculosis.

Full details of the administrative control of Tuberculosis were published in the Annual Reports of 1922 and 1923. It seems unnecessary, therefore, to reprint the scheme this year, but there are a few points to which I should like to draw the attention of the Tuberculosis Committee.

For the past twelve years a consultation hour has been held once a week at the office of the Medical Officer in the County Buildings. For some years this arrangement worked quite well for the small number of patients attending. Of late years, however, the numbers have increased so much that the accommodation is now quite inadequate. The Ministry of Pensions sends men to be reported upon, the private medical practitioners are sending an ever-increasing number of doubtful cases for diagnosis and more patients are coming regularly for advice than formerly. It is essential that extra accommodation should be obtained if this branch of the work is to receive justice.

As regards Pulmonary Tuberculosis, 40 cases were notified as compared with a yearly average of 44.6 for the previous five years, while the deaths of cases under observation numbered 29 compared with a yearly average of 23.8 for the previous five years.

The following Table gives details in each Local Authority's area:—

	Under Obser- vation, 1st Jan., 1924.	Notified dur- ing 1924.	Transferred from other Districts.	Died.	Cases Com- pleted or Left District	Under obser- vation 31st Dec. 1924.
Clackmannan County District - - -	52	8	...	6	18	33
Alloa Burgh - - - - -	37	14	1	14	12	32
Alva Burgh - - - - -	25	10	...	7	3	25
Tillicoultry Burgh - - - - -	23	8	...	1	6	20
Dollar Burgh - - - - -	6	0	...	1	1	5
Total - - - - -	143	40	1	29	40	115
	184			184		

As regards Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis, 28 cases were notified during the year, as compared with 20 the previous year. Details will be found in the Appendix in the Infectious Diseases Returns. Nine cases died during the year, and 20 cases were known in the County still suffering from the disease at the end of the year. As a rule these cases are treated in General Hospitals when operation is required, but 4 cases were successfully treated in the Tuberculosis Pavilion at the County Fever Hospital.

The amount and nature of **Treatment** given will be seen from the following Table :—

	Received Sana- torium Treatment	Received Hospital Treatment	Received Domi- ciliary Treatment
Clackmannan County District -	4	7	15
Alloa Burgh - - - -	18	13	20
Alva Burgh - - - -	4	4	11
Tillicoultry Burgh - - - -	1	4	9
Dollar Burgh - - - -	1	1	1
Total - - - -	28	29	56

Of these cases the treatment of 12 at Sanatoria, 5 in Hospital and 16 at their own homes was continued from last year. There were 4 cases in Sanatoria, 6 in Hospital and 13 in receipt of domiciliary treatment at the end of 1924.

Twenty six cases were treated at Ochil Hills Sanatorium, one at Lenham Sanatorium, Kent, and one at Durham County Sanatorium, the last two receiving training as well as treatment under the Ministry of Pensions Scheme. Twenty nine cases were treated at the Tuberculosis Pavilion at the County Fever Hospital, of which 24 were admitted during 1924. The Tuberculosis Committee, with the approval of the Scottish Board of Health, agreed to erect two sleeping shelters at the Pavilion in order to increase the accommodation there.

In his capacity as Tuberculosis Officer the M.O.H. paid 130 visits to patients, and had 322 attendances of patients at his Office.

The District Nurses and Health Visitors paid 663 visits to cases of Tuberculosis, made up as follows :—County District, 200; Alloa, 264; Alva, 100; Tillicoultry, 99.



### Scheme of Maternity Service and Child Welfare.

This has been fully detailed in previous reports. The Central Committee for Maternal and Child Welfare deals with the Scheme under the provisions of the Notification of Births Act and the Midwives (Scotland) Act so far as they concern the District Committee and the Town Councils of Alloa, Alva and Tillicoultry. Dollar Town Council has a separate scheme.

On 30th December, 1924, the Board issued a Form of Statistics to be furnished annually in the Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health. The Form embraces details of which no records have been kept, so that it is only possible to give a modified statement for 1924. The figures given below relate to the Central Committee's Scheme, while, in order to avoid the necessity of further printing, the figures relating to Dollar Scheme are shown in brackets.

#### 1. Infant Mortality.—

- (a) Number of deaths: County District, 11; Alloa, 39; Alva, 4; Tillicoultry, 7; [Dollar, 0].
- (b) Rate per 1000 births: See Table I. of Appendix.
- (c) Causes of death: Measles, 5; Whooping Cough, 2; Tuberculous Diseases, 2; Meningitis (not Tuberculous), 3; Pneumonia, 6; Bronchitis, 2; Diarrhoea and Enteritis, 1; Diseases of early infancy and malformations, 37; Other Causes, 3.

#### 2. Births.

- (a) Number Registered: (1) Legitimate: County District, 193; Alloa, 319; Alva, 79; Tillicoultry, 62; [Dollar, 12]. (2) Illegitimate: County District, 10; Alloa, 18; Alva, 2; Tillicoultry, 3; [Dollar, 2].
- (b) Number notified: County District, 165; Alloa, 287; Alva, 86; Tillicoultry, 65; [Dollar, 14].
- (c) Number attended by Midwives: County District, 30; Alloa, 192; Alva, 0; Tillicoultry, 20; [Dollar, 0].
- (d) Number of Still Births: County District, 4; Alloa, 7; Alva, 4; Tillicoultry, 2; ([Dollar, 0]).

#### 3. Maternal Mortality.—

- (a) Number of deaths resulting from miscarriage or childbirth: Alva, 1.

(b) Number of deaths resulting from Puerperal Sepsis :  
Alloa, 1.

4. **Report under Midwives (Scotland) Act, 1915.—**

Detailed reports have been forwarded to the Central Midwives' Board for Scotland, the Scottish Board of Health, the County Central Committee for Maternal and Child Welfare and the Town Council of Dollar. They may be summarised as follows :—Midwives giving notice of intention to practise : County District, 2; Alloa, 7; Alva, 2; Tillicoultry, 1; Dollar, 0].

Births attended by midwives, 244.

Cases of Ophthalmia Neonatorum, 1 (attended by a midwife). [Dollar, 0].

Cases of puerperal sepsis, 1 (attended by a midwife) [Dollar, 0].

Cases of still-birth, 12 (3 attended by midwives). [Dollar, 0].

No disciplinary action was required and the Act worked smoothly.

5. **Home Visitation.—**

The following Table gives particulars of the Health Visitors' visits to children during 1924. There is an increase of 1379 over the number of visits paid in 1923.

	No. of 1st Visits.	No of Subsequent Visits.	Total No. of Visits.
County District - - - - -	212	4754	4966
Alloa Burgh - - - - -	297	4940	5237
Alva Burgh - - - - -	86	3771	3857
Tillicoultry Burgh - - - - -	77	3511	3588
<b>Total, - - - - -</b>	<b>672</b>	<b>16976</b>	<b>17648</b>

554 visits were paid to expectant mothers, while 43 inspections of midwives and 30 visits to them for other reasons were made by the Health Visitors.

[The District Nurse in Dollar paid 273 visits to children under five, of which 12 were first visits. She paid 14 visits to expectant mothers.]

## 6. Voluntary Health Visitor's Report.—

There is only one Voluntary Health Visitor. She made 106 visits in Tullibody and Cambus. A number of ladies gave voluntary assistance at the Welfare Centres and Alloa Day Nursery.

## 7. Ante-Natal Consultations.—

Eleven expectant mothers attended the Medical Consultations at the Welfare Centres. These consultations are held twice monthly at Alloa and once each month at Alva and Tillicoultry Centres.

## 8 and 9. Post-Natal and Child Welfare Consultations.—

These are held as in paragraph 7. The Welfare Centres are open once each week and, when there are no medical consultations, lectures and demonstrations are arranged.

The following Table gives particulars of the attendances at the Centres :—

	Alloa.	Alva.	Tillicoultry.	Total.
No. of Medical Consultations - -	19	11	9	39
No. of Attendances of Babies - -	873	350	249	1472
Average Attendance - - -	45.9	31.8	27.6	37.7
No. of Mothercraft Meetings - -	21	27	22	70
No. of Attendances of Mothers - -	1112	579	537	2228
Average Attendance - - -	52.9	21.4	27.1	32.6

## 10. Special Treatment Centres.—

- (1) Teeth.—None.
- (2) Eyes.—By arrangement with the Education Authority, the Child Welfare Committee sends cases to the School Eye Clinic. Eight cases were treated there.
- (3) Other Ailments.—The Health Visitors have continued to attend to minor ailments at Alloa Day Nursery and the school clinics at Alva and Tillicoultry.
- (4) Provision of Insulin.—No cases were reported requiring insulin.

## 11. Day Nurseries, etc.—

There is a Day Nursery in Alloa which accommodates up to 30 children (5 under 1 year and 25 over 1



year). The charges made are fivepence per day on week days and threepence on Saturdays (half day only). The charges were usually paid but occasionally very necessitous cases were admitted free. The Nursery was well patronised and there were few vacancies as a rule.

**12. Food and Milk.—**

Milk (1 pint daily) was granted to children under 15 months old, and to expectant mothers over 7 months pregnant, if their condition warranted it. In exceptional cases food and milk were granted beyond these limits. Dried milk and Virol were sold at cost price. The usual cost of the supply of food and milk was about four pounds weekly.

**14 and 15—Measles and Whooping Cough.—**

- (a) These diseases are not notifiable in the County. A fairly sharp epidemic of each occurred during the year from October onwards.
- (b) Number of Deaths—Measles, 5; Whooping Cough, 2. [There were none in Dollar].
- (c) Number of cases removed to Hospital, 8 measles.
- (d) Numerous domiciliary visits were made by the Health Visitors (no record was kept).
- (e) No special staff was required for the epidemics.

**16. Epidemic Diarrhoea.—**

No epidemics occurred.

**17. Maternity Hospitals.—**

There is none in the County. Three cases were sent to Glasgow Maternity Hospital.

**18. Homes for Unmarried Mothers.—**

No cases were sent to such Homes.

**19. Hospitals for Sick Children.—**

Two cases were sent to the Royal Hospital for Sick Children, Glasgow.

**20, 21 and 22. Convalescent Homes, Boarding-out, Home Helps.—**There is nothing to report about these matters.

**23. Educational.—**

See paragraphs 8 and 9 above.

24. **Agencies Associated with Scheme.—**

The Committees keep in touch with Parish Councils and public voluntary agencies which deal with welfare work.

25. **Other Provisions.—**

Cases of pneumonia are admitted to the County Fever Hospital if accommodation is available.

### **Milk Supply.**

In last year's Report the question of the Milk Supply was fully diseussed. Among other things, the increased interest of the general public in the subject was referred to, and it is well to note that recent legislation and the activities of Child Welfare Centres, Health Organisations and of some sections of the milk industry are causing this public interest to be well maintained.

In this County we have, on the whole, a good class of dairy farms. The large retail firms now regularly take test samples of milk received by them, not only as regards butter-fat, but also as regards cleanliness. The dairyman who supplies milk which is not up to a certain standard of cleanliness soon receives a warning from the retailer to improve his methods.

All dairy farms and milk shops were inspected as usual and some improvement in some of them were effected as a result. No licences for the sale of graded milk were issued and no infringements of the Condensed Milk and Dried Milk Regulations were detected.

### **Inspection of Food.**

The usual inspections of meat and other articles of food were carried out by the Medical Officer, Veterinary Officer and Sanitary Inspectors under Section 43 of the Public Health (Scotland) Act. The nature and quantity of unsound food seized and destroyed has been reported on by the Sanitary Inspectors. There is room for much improvement in the methods of storing articles of food in shops and stores, especially as regards protection from flies and dust, and also in the manner that food, especially fruit, is carried about in hawkers' carts without adequate means for keeping it clean.

Under the Public Health (Meat) Regulations (Scotland), 1924, all Local Authorities appointed Meat Inspectors and Detention

Officers, and returns of the work done, have been sent to Local Authorities and the Board of Health.

### Laboratory.

Most of the work was sent to Laboratories in Edinburgh as the M.O.H. had little time to do it at the County Buildings, Alloa. Any urgent specimens were, however, examined by the M.O.H. in Alloa, in order to save time, e.g., at week-ends when delay in transmission by post is unavoidable. In this way 20 specimens were examined.

## Clackmannan County District.

**Water Supply.**—The erection of a large storage tank at Carse-bridge Distillery and of small tanks at various high points on the Lossburn supply has been instrumental in removing practically all causes of complaint of shortage of water. The possibility of an increased demand for water, which might require extra main piping and filters, was considered by the Council, and is being kept in view. The water supplies to Clackmannan, Coalsnaughton and Devonside, Keillarsbrae and Hallpark, and Lower Mains, Dollar, have supplied the needs of their respective districts satisfactorily.

**General Sanitary Matters.**—The sanitary condition of the District is fairly satisfactory. A number of privy-middens were replaced by water closets or dry closets, and regular removal of refuse by scavenging contractors was extended to include the houses concerned. Kerbs and run-channels were laid in Tullibody and Coalsnaughton along the scheduled highways. The other streets, not scheduled as highways, would be much improved by similar treatment. The dairies, 37 in number, were inspected and, as a rule, were found satisfactory. Inspections of the District were regularly made and many minor defects were remedied as a result.

**Factory and Workshop Act, 1901.**—Sixteen inspections of factories, 42 of workshops, and 8 of work-places were made. Five defects were found, all being nuisances under the Public Health Acts, namely:—Want of cleanliness, 4; want of drainage of floors, 1. All those defects were remedied. A tabular statement has been forwarded to the Home Office, the Scottish Board of Health, and the District Committee.

**Housing.**—There is still a shortage of suitable working-class dwellings and the habitability of a number of existing dwellings is of an inferior standard. Efforts were made during the year, as in former years, to get repairs carried out on existing houses and these efforts were moderately successful. There is no scheme at present under consideration for improvement of insanitary areas, but a scheme for erection of new houses has been formulated since the end of the year. The original housing scheme at Tullibody was not completed at the end of the year, but was well advanced.

Under the Housing (Inspection of District) Regulations, 1910, inspections were made of 142 houses, 41 of which were considered to be unfit for human habitation. Of these 18 were remedied without the making of closing orders and 19 were dealt with under Section 25 (1) of the 1919 Act. Of these 19 houses, 18 were rendered fit for habitation and one closing order became effective. Forty-three intimations were given as to insufficient water closet accommodation and the requirements were complied with by owners in 19 cases, while 24 cases were still pending at the end of the year. No houses of one apartment or two apartments were erected during the year.

**The Slaughter-Houses** were regularly inspected and found satisfactory as a rule. Warning as to more careful cleansing of implements and tables had to be given at times.

**Infectious Diseases.**—The number of cases notified was 85 compared with 98 last year, 66 in 1922, and 54 in 1921. Particulars will be found in Table II. of the Appendix.

**Vital Statistics.**—The birth-rate was 19.7 per 1000 population compared with 21.9 for Scotland. There has been a general fall in the birth-rate since 1920. The illegitimate birth-rate per 100 total births was 4.9 compared with 6.6 for Scotland. The death-rate was 12.0 compared with 14.4 for Scotland. The infantile death-rate of 53 compares favourably with that of 66 for last year, and 98 for Scotland for 1924. The death-rates from tuberculosis and the principal epidemic diseases are much lower than the same rates for Scotland. Details of the various rates will be found in Table I. of the Appendix. Of the 206 children whose births were registered 10 were illegitimate, 94 were males and 112 were females. There were 125 deaths, 68 of males and 57 of females. Of these, 16 were children under 5 years of age (11 of them under 1 year)

and 58 were of persons over 65 years of age, leaving 51 (or 51.6 per cent. of the total deaths) who died between the ages of 5 and 65 years. The principal causes of death were :—Heart Disease, 11; Malignant Tumours, 13; Apoplexy, 23; Tuberculosis, 9; Diseases of early infancy, 9; Violent Deaths (3 suicides), 6; Disease or accident connected with child-birth, 0; Bronchitis, 10; Pneumonia, 5.

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## Burgh of Alloa.

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Public Health matters affecting the Burgh in common with other districts in the County are dealt with in the first section of this Report, headed "Clackmannanshire."

**Water Supply.**—The question of the water supply received considerable attention from the Town Council and the officials concerned during the year. Several inspections were made of the Black Devon and its gathering ground and samples of water for analysis were taken. The Glen Devon Water Works of Dunfermline District Committee were also visited, and their advantages and disadvantages compared with those of the existing Alloa water works were carefully weighed as regards quality, quantity and cost, preparatory to a decision being come to as to exercising, or not, the option held by Alloa on a share of Glen Devon water. Progress was made by negotiations between Dunfermline District Committee and Messrs Wilsons and Clyde, colliery proprietors, regarding the disposal of sewage from new houses in course of erection for their miners. These negotiations resulted in the formation of a Special Drainage District for Steelend and Saline, to be provided with an up-to-date sewage purification plant to deal with the sewage from the whole area. Plans for this scheme were prepared and some of the sewers laid by the end of the year. The results of the purification methods to be adopted will be carefully noted so that additional works may be installed if required. It is hoped that the final result will be an improvement on conditions as they exist at present. Additional pumping plant at Gartmorn Reservoir, to ensure that all water supplied to consumers will at all times have had the benefit of prolonged "storage," will be erected unless Glen Devon water is taken, in which case considerable changes will be required as regards storage and distribution.



Analyses made of Alloa water as at present supplied to consumers have invariably shown it to be of great purity. These analyses, both chemical and bacteriological, were made at the Usher Institute, Edinburgh.

**General Sanitary Matters.**—The Sanitary Inspector deals fully with drainage, scavenging, nuisances and the usual inspections under various Acts and Regulations in his Annual Report. There is no need to repeat details here, but I have satisfied myself that the general sanitary condition of the Burgh is satisfactory except in the insanitary areas frequently referred to in previous reports, and in certain properties scattered throughout the town.

**Factory and Workshops Act, 1901.**—224 inspections of factories, workshops and work-places were made by the Medical Officer and the Sanitary Inspector and his staff. Ten defects were found, all being nuisances under the Public Health Acts, and all of them were remedied. A tabular statement has been forwarded to the Home Office, the Board of Health and the Town Council.

**Housing.**—There was little progress made during the year under the Housing (Scotland) Acts, 1890-1924. This was partly due to the insufficiency of existing working-class dwellings to allow of the closing of insanitary dwellings and the housing of their inmates elsewhere, partly to the unwillingness of proprietors to expend money on repairs of defective property, and partly to the occurrence of strikes and the shortage of labour delaying the erection of new houses. Sixteen two-roomed houses, the building of which commenced early in the year, were unfinished at its close. These are being built under the Insanitary Areas Scheme and others under this Scheme have been sanctioned by the Board. Plans have also been prepared for the erection of 100 other houses of two, three and four rooms under the other State-aided Scheme in force.

Under the Housing (Inspection of District) Regulations, 1910, 130 houses were inspected, and of these 91 were considered unfit for human habitation and 26 representations were made to the Local Authority with a view to the making of Closing Orders, which were duly made. Intimations were given as to insufficient water-closet accommodation in 24 cases and the requirements were complied with in all cases. The Local Authority gave consent for the erection of 16 houses of two apartments.

**The Slaughter-house** has been regularly inspected and found

in good order and well-conducted. Its extension and the provision of cold storage are matters for consideration.

**Port Sanitary Authority.**—No work was required during the year regarding “suspected” or “infected” ships.

**Infectious Diseases.**—The number of cases notified was 137 compared with 105 in 1923, 134 in 1922 and 85 in 1921. Particulars will be found in Table III. of the Appendix.

**Vital Statistics.**—Details of the principal rates will be found in Table I. of the Appendix. The birth-rate is higher than that for Scotland, being 26.4 compared with 21.9. The illegitimate birth-rate per 100 total births was 5.3 compared with 6.6 for Scotland. The death-rate was 15.7 compared with 14.4 for Scotland. The infantile death-rate was 115 compared with 98 for Scotland. The death-rate from pulmonary tuberculosis was 0.93 compared with 0.80 for Scotland, while the corresponding rates for non-pulmonary tuberculosis were 0.33 and 0.30. The death-rate from the principal epidemic diseases is 1.09 compared with 1.01 for Scotland. Of the 340 children whose births were registered 18 were illegitimate, while 183 were males and 157 were females. There were 202 deaths, 106 of males and 96 of females. Of these, 57 were of children under 5 years of age (39 of them under 1 year) and 72 were of persons over 65 years of age, leaving 73 (or 50.3 per cent. of the total deaths) of persons who died between the ages of 5 and 65 years. The principal causes of death were:—Heart Disease, 26; Apoplexy, 22; Tuberculosis, 17; Malignant Tumours, 14; Violent Deaths, 5; Disease or Accident connected with child-birth, 0; Bronchitis, 7; and Pneumonia, 17.

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## Burgh of Alva.

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Public Health matters affecting the Burgh in common with other parts of the County have been dealt with in the first section of this Report.

**General Matters.**—Inspections were made periodically and showed that the water supply, drainage and scavenging were carefully and efficiently managed. Any nuisances found were of a minor nature and were remedied under the supervision of the Sanitary Inspector. The dairies, ice-cream shops, butchers'

shops and vans were regularly inspected. All milk cows in the Burgh were examined by the Veterinary Surgeon and were found healthy and free from tuberculosis. The slaughter-houses were conducted satisfactorily.

**Factory and Workshops Act.**—Twenty inspections of Factories, 29 of Workshops and 56 of Workplaces were made. No written notices or prosecutions were required. In 19 cases there was want of cleanliness and other nuisances in 7 cases. All these defects were remedied.

**Housing.**—Under the Housing (Inspection of District) Regulations, 1910, 27 inspections were made. One house was considered unfit for human habitation, but it was rendered fit without a Closing Order being made. Intimation as to insufficient water-closet accommodation was given in 24 cases. In 8 cases the requirements were complied with, while 16 cases were still pending at the end of the year.

**Infectious Diseases.**—The total number of cases notified was 74, compared with 11 last year, 26 in 1922 and 44 in 1921. Full details will be found in Table IV. of the Appendix.

**Vital Statistics.**—The various rates are detailed in Table I. of the Appendix. The birth-rate is 21.1 compared with a rate of 21.9 for Scotland. The illegitimate birth-rate per 100 total births is only 2.4 compared with 6.6 for Scotland. The death-rate was 15.4 compared with 14.4 for Scotland. This rate of 15.4 is corrected for transfers of the deaths of Alva people who died elsewhere, but the actual rate without correction is 12.8 and the rate corrected for Transfers and adjusted for Age and Sex Distribution is 14.4. The infantile death-rate of 49 is well below that for Scotland of 98. The death-rate for pulmonary tuberculosis was 1.54 compared with 0.80 for Scotland, while the corresponding rates for non-pulmonary Tuberculosis were 0.26 and 0.36. The epidemic disease death-rate is low in spite of the scarlet fever outbreak, being 0.26 compared with 1.01 for Scotland. Of the 82 children whose births were registered, 2 were illegitimate, while 41 were males and 41 were females. There were 60 deaths, 30 of males and 30 of females. Of these, 8 were of children under 5 years of age (4 of them under 1 year) and 34 were of persons over 65 years of age, leaving 18 or only 30 per cent. of the total deaths of persons who died between 5 and 65 years of age. The principal causes of death



were:—Heart Disease, 6; Malignant Tumours, 3; Apoplexy, 5; Whooping Cough, 1; Bronchitis, 0; and Pneumonia, 7. There were no deaths connected with child birth.

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## Burgh of Tillicoultry.

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Many important matters relating to the Public Health of the Burgh are dealt with in the first section of this Report under the heading "Clackmannanshire."

**General Matters.**—The scavenging and drainage of the Burgh were carefully supervised with satisfactory results. The sewage purification works were kept in good order and gave fairly good results. No complaints were received by me regarding the water supply. Several nuisances of a minor nature were reported or discovered and were rectified under the supervision of the Assistant Sanitary Inspector. The dairies and shops selling food were regularly inspected and were found, on the whole, to be well conducted. The building of the new slaughter-house by the Co-operative Society was proceeded with and it should be a great improvement on the old one.

**Factory and Workshops Act.**—Fifteen inspections of factories, 35 of workshops and 5 of workplaces were made, but no written notices or prosecutions were required. The following defects were found and remedied:—Want of cleanliness, 4; want of ventilation, 4; other nuisances, 1.

**Housing.**—The Town Council decided to erect more houses, including some of two rooms, and a scheme was prepared during the year for submission to the Board of Health. Sixteen houses were inspected by me and all of them were passed as reasonably fit for human habitation.

**Infectious Diseases.**—The total number of cases notified was 32 compared with 25 last year and 24 in 1922. The number notified under the Notification Act was 15 compared with 10 last year and 6 in 1922. Tuberculosis accounts for 15 of the above 32 cases notified. This is, unfortunately, rather a large number for a town the size of Tillicoultry. Particulars will be found in Table V. of the Appendix.

**Vital Statistics.**—The birth rate is 22.1 compared with that of

21.9 for Scotland. The illegitimate birth-rate per 100 total births was 4.5 compared with 6.6 for Scotland. The death-rate was 14.1 compared with 14.4 for Scotland. The infantile death-rate was 106 compared with 98 for Scotland. There were no deaths from pulmonary tuberculosis or epidemic diseases but the death-rate from non-pulmonary tuberculosis was 0.67 compared with 0.36 for Scotland. Of the 66 children whose births were registered, 3 were illegitimate, 35 were males and 31 were females. There were 42 deaths, 18 of males and 24 of females. Of these, 9 were children under 5 years of age (7 of them under 1 year), and 26 of persons over 65 years of age, leaving 7 (or only 16.6 per cent. of the total deaths) of persons who died between the ages of 5 and 65 years. The principal causes of death were :—Heart Disease, 7; Apoplexy, 9; Malignant Tumours, 7; Tuberculosis, 2. There were no deaths connected with child-birth.

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## Burgh of Dollar.

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In the first section of this report will be found details of Public Health matters which affect the Burgh in common with other parts of the County.

**General Matters.**—The water supply was taken over by the Town Council from the Dollar Water Board, and the scheme for its improvement, submitted by Mr Proudfoot, Water Engineer, Kirkealdy, was adopted after some alterations, suggested at conferences of the Town Council with him, were incorporated in it. The work, which includes new filters, storage tanks and pumps, was commenced during the year and the result should be very satisfactory. The scavenging was well conducted and the new refuse coup is being carefully managed. No complaints were received regarding the drainage, and the sewage farm continued to work satisfactorily. The management of the slaughter house was not as efficiently carried out as it ought to be. The appointment of a person to be responsible for its cleanliness would appear to be advisable. The dairies were kept in good order.

**Factory and Workshops Act.**—Twenty-four inspections of workshops and 10 of workplaces were made. The following de-

fects were found:—Want of cleanliness, 1; want of drainage of floors, 1. These defects were remedied.

**Housing.**—No new housing schemes were formulated during the year, the possibility of coal-mining developments being responsible for a "waiting" policy. Five houses were inspected under the Housing (Inspection of District) Regulations, 1910, and all were considered to be fit for human habitation.

**Maternity Service and Child Welfare.**—The figures and statistics relating to the scheme administered by Dollar Town Council have been included (in brackets) with those of the Central Committee's scheme, reported upon in the first part of this report (page 12). This has been done in order to avoid duplication of printing.

**Infectious Diseases.**—The total number of cases notified was 14 compared with 13 last year and 8 in 1922. The number notified under the Notification Act was 2, compared with 5 last year and 3 in 1922. Details will be found in Table IV. of the Appendix.

**Vital Statistics.**—The birth-rate was 11.2 compared with 20.9 for Scotland. The death-rate was higher than usual, being 16.8 compared with that of 14.4 for Scotland. But, when corrected for Transfers and adjusted for Age and Sex Distribution, the death-rate was only 13.0. There were no deaths under 1 year of age. There were two deaths from tuberculosis, making the rate 1.29 against 1.16 for Scotland. There was one death from whooping-cough, making the epidemic death-rate 0.65 compared with 1.01 for Scotland. The principal causes of death were:—Heart Disease, 5; Apoplexy, 3; Influenza, 6. Of the 26 persons who died 12 were males and 14 females. Of the 17 children whose births were registered 7 were males and 10 females. There were 2 illegitimate births. The vital statistics, when analysed by one with a knowledge of local conditions, are quite satisfactory. There were no deaths connected with child-birth.



# APPENDIX.

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## VITAL STATISTICS AND RETURNS OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE Notified during 1924.



TABLE I.

	Births per 1000 population.		Deaths per 1000 population		Deaths under 1 year per 1000 Births.		Deaths from Tuberculosis per 1000 population.				Deaths from Epidemic Disease per 1000 population.	
	1924.	Mean of Preceding 5 years.	1924.	Mean of Preceding 5 years.	1924.	Mean of Preceding 5 years.	Pulmonary Tuberculosis (Phtthisis).		Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis.		1924.	Mean of Preceding 5 years.
							1924.	Mean of Preceding 5 years.	1924.	Mean of Preceding 5 years.		Mean of Preceding 5 years.
Clackman'n County Dis.	19.7	25.8	12.0	13.4	53	77	0.57	0.55	0.29	0.41	0.10	0.50
Alloa Burgh -	26.4	25.3	15.7	14.4	115	84	0.93	1.03	0.33	0.50	1.09	0.54
Alva Burgh -	21.1	23.0	15.4	16.0	49	81	1.54	0.89	0.26	0.25	0.26	0.75
Tillicoultry Burgh -	22.1	22.1	14.1	16.1	106	74	0.00	0.95	0.67	0.21	0.00	0.39
Dollar Burgh -	11.0	14.5	16.8	13.7	0	66	0.65	0.38	0.64	0.00	0.65	0.15
Clackmannanshire -	22.4	22.4	14.3	14.3	86	79	0.79	0.81	0.38	0.38	0.54	0.52
Scotland -	21.9	24.3	14.4	14.2	98	93	0.80	0.84	0.36	0.42	1.01	1.02

NOTE.—All the above rates are corrected for transfers.













TABLE IV—RETURN OF CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE NOTIFIED. &c., DURING THE YEAR  
ENDING 31st DECEMBER. 1924.

COUNTY OF CLACKMANNAN, BURGH OF ALVA.

DISEASE.	NUMBER OF CASES COMING TO THE KNOWLEDGE OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.								Cases re-moved to Hos-pital.	Cases not re-moved to Hos-pital.	Cases notified in a previous year and removed to Hospital for the first time during 1924
	At all Ages.	At Age—Years									
		Under 1.	1 and under 5	5 and under 15.	15 and under 25.	25 and under 45	45 and under 65.	65 and upwards.			
A.—DISEASES SPECIFIED IN THE INFECTIOUS DISEASE (NOTIFICATION) ACT, 1889.											
Typhoid or Enteric Fever, ...	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Typhus Fever, ...	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Smallpox. ...	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Scarlet Fever or Scarlatina,...	59	..	36	9	..	..	..	..	59	..	..
Diphtheria and Membranous Croup,	3	1	1	1	..	..	..	..	3	..	..
Erysipelas, ...	1	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..
Puerperal Fever, ...	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Cholera, ...	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Relapsing Fever, ...	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Continued Fever, ...	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
B.—DISEASES NOTIFIABLE IN TERMS OF REGULATIONS MADE UNDER SECTION 78 OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH (SCOTLAND) ACT, 1897.											
Ophthalmia Neonatorum, ...	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Infective Jaundice ...	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Malaria, ...	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Dysentery, ...	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Trench Fever, ...	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Acute Primary Pneumonia, ...	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Acute Influenzal Pneumonia, ...	1	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	1	..
Pulmonary Tuberculosis, ...	10	..	1	2	3	4	..	..	5	5	..
Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis, ...	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Total of A and B,...	74	15	39	12	4	4	..	..	67	7	..
C.—DISEASES TO WHICH THE PROVISIONS OF THE INFECTIOUS DISEASE (NOTIFICATION) ACT HAVE BEEN EXTENDED BY THE LOCAL AUTHORITY.											
Acute Anterior Poliomyelitis, ...	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Cerebro-Spinal Fever, ...	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
STATE NAME OF HOSPITAL OR HOSPITALS IN WHICH CASES WERE TREATED. Clackmannanshire Combination Infectious Diseases Hospital, Alloa. Tuberculosis Pavilion at Infectious Diseases Hospital, Alloa. Ochil Hills Sanatorium, Milnathort.											
NUMBER OF PERSONS RESIDENT IN THE BURGH AS AT 31ST DECEMBER, 1924, WHO WERE KNOWN TO BE SUFFERING FROM TUBERCULOSIS. (Persons in Sanatoria, &c., should be included in the figures for the area in which they have their homo residence.)											
Pulmonary Tuberculosis <i>only</i> . ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	24	...	...
Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis <i>only</i> , ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	...	...
Both Pulmonary and Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis, ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...
Total, ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	28	...	...











TABLE VI—RETURN OF CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE NOTIFIED, &c., DURING THE YEAR  
ENDING 31st DECEMBER, 1924

## COUNTY OF CLACKMANNAN, BURGH OF DOLLAR.

DISEASE.		NUMBER OF CASES COMING TO THE KNOWLEDGE OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.						
		At all Ages.	At Age—Years					
			Under 1.	1 and under 5.	5 and under 15.	15 and under 25.	25 and under 45.	45 and under 65.
A.—DISEASES SPECIFIED IN THE INFECTIOUS DISEASE (NOTIFICATION) ACT, 1889.								
Typhoid or Enteric Fever,	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Typhus Fever,	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Smallpox.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Scarlet Fever or Scarletina,	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Diphtheria and Membranous Croup,	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	...
Erysipelas,	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...
Puerperal Fever,	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Cholera,	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Relapsing Fever,	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Continued Fever,	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
B.—DISEASES NOTIFIABLE IN TERMS OF REGULATIONS MADE UNDER SECTION 78 OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH (SCOTLAND) ACT, 1897.								
Ophthalmia Neonatorum,	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Chickenpox	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Malaria,	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Dysentery,	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Trench Fever,	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Acute Primary Pneumonia,	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Acute Influenzal Pneumonia,	1	...	1	...	...	4	5	...
Pulmonary Tuberculosis,	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis,	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	...
Total of A and B, ...	14	...	1	2	1	...	5	3
C.—DISEASES TO WHICH THE PROVISIONS OF THE INFECTIOUS DISEASE (NOTIFICATION) ACT HAVE BEEN EXTENDED BY THE LOCAL AUTHORITY.								
Acute Anterior Poliomyelitis,	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Cerebro-Spinal Fever,	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
STATE NAME OF HOSPITAL OR HOSPITALS IN WHICH CASES WERE TREATED.								
Clackmannanshire Combination Infectious Diseases Hospital, Alloa.								
Tuberculosis Pavilion at Infectious Diseases Hospital, Alloa.								
NUMBER OF PERSONS RESIDENT IN THE BURGH AS AT 31ST DECEMBER, 1924, WHO WERE KNOWN TO BE SUFFERING FROM TUBERCULOSIS.								
(Persons in Sanatoria, &c., should be included in the figures for the area in which they have their home residence.)								
Pulmonary Tuberculosis only.	...	...	...	...	...	...	5	...
Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis only,	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Both Pulmonary and Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis,	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Total,	...	...	...	...	...	...	5	...





